

Benson does not generate a different sequence of characteristic values in each region for several reasons. First, a unique ID code is not the same as a "different sequence of characteristic values." In other words, a single ID code cannot be a sequence. Second, the claimed different sequence of characteristic values is for each region of a display. In contrast, the ID codes of Benson are for sensors, not regions of a display. Thus, claim 1 and claims 2 and 6-10 depending therefrom are patentable over Benson. For similar reasons, claim 11 and claims 12, 13 and 17-19 depending therefrom are similarly patentable, as are claim 20 and claims 21-23 and 27-29 depending therefrom. (1)

Dependent claims 6, 17 and 27 are further patentable as nowhere does Benson disclose "displaying a series of frames and interspersing, among said frames, additional frames having at least two regions each displaying a sequence of characteristic values." In this regard, the portion of Benson cited by the Office Action (col. 9, lns. 15-46) nowhere discloses such interspersing of additional frames having at least two regions each displaying a sequence of characteristic values. (2)

Dependent claims 8, 18, and 28 are further patentable over Benson as nowhere does Benson disclose "displaying a time sequence of frames each including at least two regions, and each of said regions displaying a timed sequence of characteristic values." In this regard, the periodic broadcasting of system status recited by the Office Action is not a timed sequence of characteristic values, nor is it characteristic values of regions of a display. (3)

B. Rejection of Claim 30 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Over Benson

The Office Action has rejected pending claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Benson. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. The Office Action concedes that Benson does not teach that a sensor is a light sensor that detects a characteristic value in the form of light, however the Office Action states that it would be obvious. Benson relates to sensors for alarm systems. Such an alarm sensor even if a light sensor, does not teach or suggest detection of characteristic values in a region of a display. Accordingly, claim 30 is patentable over Benson.

C. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 3-5, 14-16 and 24-26 are allowable.

D. Rejection of Claims Under U.S.C. §112

Claims 11-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. The Office Action states "it is unclear as to what 'an article' is." Office Action, page 2. As recited in claim 11, an article is something that comprises "a medium storing instructions that enable a processor-based system" to perform certain actions. As such, claims 11-19 particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. More so, as described in the specification, in one embodiment a system includes a storage device 34 that stores a software program 36 (Specification, page 7 and FIG.3). Thus in one embodiment the "article" of claims 11-19 may be a storage device storing a software program. Applicant thus respectfully requests the Examiner to remove this rejection of claims 11-19.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in

accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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